

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2 and 4-12 are amended. Support for these amendments can be found, at least, in Figs. 2A and 2B and page 6, line 2 - page 7, line 9 of Applicants' specification. No new matter is added.

Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2006/0288113 to Saunders et al. ("Saunders") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,974,218 to Nagasaka (hereinafter "Nagasaka"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-12, as amended, recite an image reproduction system having a preprocessing unit that extracts static image data from the video data and "a plurality of static image data and each static image data represents scenes in the video data having variable time width for the portion of video data represented in the scene." Nagasaka does not disclose or suggest this feature.

Using the rejection of claim 1 for illustrative purposes, Nagasaka discloses a method for presenting information of a recorded television program for allowing a user to seize easy and quick content composition, and an easily manipulable interface. See Abstract of Nagasaka. Nagasaka discloses a display area 700 having recording time points denoted by a reference numeral 702 that are displayed at a predetermined time interval, starting from a record starting time point. See Fig. 7 and col. 12, lines 47-52 of Nagasaka.

As can be seen in Fig. 7, each predetermined time interval can have a variable number of shot-representative pictures for a given time interval. See Fig. 7 of Nagasaka. However, Nagasaka only collects a variable number of shot-representative pictures, and not a collection of pictures representing portions of video having variable time widths.

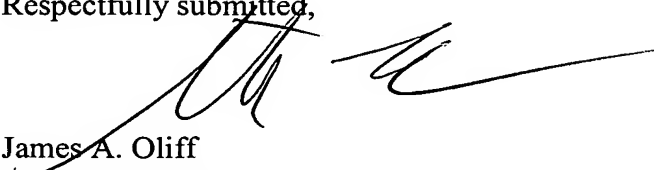
By contrast, claim 1 recites an image reproduction system having a preprocessing unit that extracts static image data from the video data and "each static image data represents scenes in the video data having variable time width for the portion of video data represented in the

scene." Nagasaka does not disclose or suggest this feature of claim 1, nor does it disclose or suggest the above-mentioned features of claims 2 and 4-12. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 4-12, and claims 3 and 13-31 depending therefrom, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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